

Additional Correspondence
Agenda Item 6-A

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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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CITY COUNCIL

Javier Lopez, Mayor
James Casey, Dist. 1
Rosalinda L. Vierra, Dist. 2
Cerina Otero, Dist. 3
Daniel A. Martinez, Dist. 4

August 20, 2026

Chair and Members of the Commission
Stanislaus Local Agency Formation Commission
1010 Tenth Street, Third Floor
Modesto, Ca 95354

**RE: LAFCO Application No. 2026-04 - Ceres Fire Protection District
Reorganization to the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District**

Dear Chair and Members of the Commission:

On behalf of the City of Ceres, I am writing to express the City's support for the proposed reorganization involving the annexation of the Ceres Fire Protection District territory into the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District and the simultaneous dissolution of the Ceres Fire Protection District.

The City recognizes that the proposed reorganization is intended to provide long-term governance and financial stability for fire protection services within the affected area. The City also appreciates the Ceres Fire Protection District's recognition of the high-quality fire protection and emergency response services the City has provided to the District's residents for more than sixty years.

The City's support is based upon the mutual intent of the City and the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District to continue negotiating in good faith toward a mutually acceptable revenue-sharing agreement. The purpose of that agreement would be to mitigate the fiscal impact to the City resulting from the reorganization and continue funding to the City at a level generally equivalent to the revenues currently received for providing fire protection services within the Ceres Fire Protection District service area for a transition period. The specific amount, duration, terms, and implementation of the agreement remain subject to negotiation and approval by both governing boards.

On August 19, 2026, the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District Board of Directors adopted a resolution declaring its intent to negotiate and enter into a revenue-sharing agreement with the City following the proposed annexation. On August 24, 2026, the Ceres City Council will consider a substantially similar resolution declaring the

City's intent to continue those negotiations in good faith and to bring any proposed agreement before the City Council for separate consideration and approval.

These resolutions are expressions of mutual intent and do not obligate either agency to accept any particular financial or contractual term. Any final agreement will require separate consideration and approval by the Ceres City Council and the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District Board at duly noticed public meetings.

With these mutual commitments in place, the City supports LAFCO's approval of the proposed reorganization and does not request that the Commission delay its consideration while the City and Stanislaus Consolidated complete their negotiations. The City respectfully requests that this letter and the agencies' resolutions be included in the administrative record for the August 26, 2026, hearing.

The City looks forward to continuing its longstanding partnership with the region's fire service agencies and working cooperatively with the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District toward an agreement that protects the interests of the affected residents and both agencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steven Williams", is written over a horizontal dashed line.

Interim City Manager
City of Ceres

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CERES
DECLARING THE CITY'S INTENT TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO
A REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT WITH THE STANISLAUS
CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOLLOWING THE
PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF THE CERES FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT**

THE CITY COUNCIL
City of Ceres

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is scheduled to consider the proposed annexation of the Ceres Fire Protection District into the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District on August 26, 2026; and

WHEREAS, for more than sixty years the City of Ceres has provided fire protection services within the Ceres Fire Protection District pursuant to contractual agreements; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ceres recognizes that the proposed annexation is intended to provide long-term governance and financial stability for fire protection services within the affected area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ceres and the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District have initiated discussions regarding a future revenue sharing agreement associated with the annexation; and

WHEREAS, representatives of both agencies have expressed a mutual desire to negotiate in good faith toward an agreement that would continue funding to the City of Ceres at a level generally equivalent to the revenues currently received by the City for providing fire protection services within the former Ceres Fire Protection District service area for a transition period, the duration and terms of which remain to be negotiated; and

WHEREAS, both agencies recognize that additional time is necessary to negotiate the specific terms, conditions, duration, and implementation of such an agreement; and

WHEREAS, nothing in this Resolution is intended to modify, supersede, or otherwise affect any allocation or exchange of property tax revenues required or approved pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 99 in connection with the proposed reorganization; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to publicly express the City's commitment to continue those negotiations in good faith and to work cooperatively with the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District to reach a mutually beneficial agreement following LAFCO's consideration of the proposed annexation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Ceres does hereby declare the City's intent to negotiate and enter into a revenue sharing

ATTACHMENT A

agreement with the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District following the proposed annexation of the Ceres Fire Protection District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution is an expression of intent only and does not obligate the City to enter into any agreement, make any payment, or accept any particular financial or contractual term. Any proposed revenue sharing agreement shall be subject to subsequent consideration and approval by the Ceres City Council at a duly noticed public meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this Resolution modifies, supersedes, or otherwise affects any property tax allocation or exchange undertaken pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 99 in connection with the proposed reorganization.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Ceres City Council at a regular meeting thereof held on the 24th day of August 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmembers:
NOES:	Councilmembers:
ABSENT:	Councilmembers:
ABSTAIN:	Councilmembers:

Javier Lopez, Mayor

ATTEST:

Fallon Martin, City Clerk

RESOLUTION 2026-009

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STANISLAUS CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT DECLARING ITS INTENT TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF CERES FOLLOWING THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF THE CERES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is scheduled to consider the proposed annexation of the Ceres Fire Protection District into the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District on August 26, 2026; and

WHEREAS, for more than sixty years the City of Ceres has provided fire protection services within the Ceres Fire Protection District pursuant to contractual agreements; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ceres recognizes that the proposed annexation is intended to provide long-term governance and financial stability for fire protection services within the affected area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ceres and the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District have initiated discussions regarding a future revenue sharing agreement associated with the annexation; and

WHEREAS, representatives of both agencies have expressed a mutual desire to negotiate in good faith toward an agreement that would continue funding to the City of Ceres at a level generally equivalent to the revenues currently received by the City for providing fire protection services within the former Ceres Fire Protection District service area for a transition period, the duration and terms of which remain to be negotiated; and

WHEREAS, both agencies recognize that additional time is necessary to negotiate the specific terms, conditions, duration, and implementation of such an agreement; and

WHEREAS, nothing in this Resolution is intended to modify, supersede, or otherwise affect any allocation or exchange of property tax revenues required or approved pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 99 in connection with the proposed reorganization; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Directors to publicly express its commitment to continue those negotiations in good faith and to work cooperatively with the City of Ceres to reach a mutually beneficial agreement following LAFCO's consideration of the proposed annexation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District does hereby declare its intent to negotiate

ATTACHMENT B

and enter into a revenue sharing agreement with the City of Ceres following the proposed annexation of the Ceres Fire Protection District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution is an expression of intent only and does not obligate the District to enter into any agreement, make any payment, or accept any particular financial or contractual term. Any proposed revenue sharing agreement shall be subject to subsequent consideration and approval by the Board of Directors at a duly noticed public meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this Resolution modifies, supersedes, or otherwise affects any property tax allocation or exchange undertaken pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 99 in connection with the proposed reorganization.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District Board of Directors at a special meeting thereof held on the 17th day of August 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:	Board Members:
NOES:	Board Members:
ABSENT:	Board Members:
ABSTAIN:	Board Members:

Brandon Rivers, Board President

ATTEST:

Jessica Sousa, Clerk of the Board

Kyler Rayden, District Counsel